

Ser. No. 10/505,306

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## Remarks

Claims 1-20 were pending in the application. Claims 1-10 and 12-20 were rejected. Claim 11 was merely objected to and no claims were allowed. By the foregoing amendment, claims 5, 6, and 9-11 are canceled, claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 17, and 20 are amended, and claims 21-25 are added. No new matter is presented.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 11. Claim 11 and its intervening claims have been incorporated into claim 1.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. 102 and 103

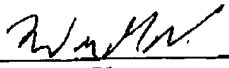
Claim 4 was rejected as being anticipated by Winters (US5690303). Claims 1-3, 12, 13, and 17-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Winters or Mooser (US2793468) in view of Sumner (US6464296). Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Winters or Mooser in view of Sumner. Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Winters or Mooser in view of Sumner, and further in view of Brentham (US4448412). Claims 6-10, 15, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Winters or Mooser in view of Sumner, and further in view of Schultz (US4432116). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Schultz was identified as teaching silicone fluid as the fluid of claim 7. Claim 7 identified the fluid as comprising "a gel, a colloid, a dilitant composition or a thixotropic composition." A dilitant composition is identified at page 7, line 26, as an alternative to such a silicone gel. Accordingly, the dilitant composition aspect of claim 7 has been introduced in independent form in new claim 21. The dilitant composition has also been introduced to the other existing independent claims (except for claim 1 (formerly 11) as discussed above). There is no suggestion for the use of such a material.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 1-4, 7, 8, and 12-25 are in condition for allowance. Please charge any fees or deficiency or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account of record.

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Respectfully submitted,

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